

Portraits Dec 10th 1853

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My dear Gray

The *Outea bijuga* DC. is certainly closely allied to the African *Azelia* *anthonota* *lutea* and *Berlinia* and to the American *Eperua* *parivosa* *Outea* and *Nouaga*, but if they are kept distinct the *Outea* is certainly the one of them all it is farthest from in habit and in the pod.

I am not acquainted with the *Lutea* *madagascariensis* but the *Lutea* *amboinensis* is probably a congener of if not the same as *Outea bijuga* and I think, as far as we know both *Lutea* and *Outea bijuga*, cannot well be generically separated from *Azelia*. *Lutea* is said to have ^{unequally} "unequally pinnate leaves" but the allied *Eperua* & *Parivosa* appear to have them both abruptly and unequally pinnate on the same plant.

Are you sure *Youngia* is right

about the upper petal being
outside the two lateral ones? if
so that would be a solitary exception
among *Caralpinia*.

We were much alarmed about
the report of D Torrey's death and
are all most heartily glad to hear
it had no foundation.

Mr. Beethoven continues
poorly. Her friend Mr. Aiton
has been staying a few days
with her and takes her
tomorrow into Shropshire
where I join her on
Christmas Eve - We have had
a miserably dull cold autumn
we rarely see the sun now
in three weeks and never
more than one day at a time
Yesterday we had a really fine
day Today it sleets and snows
and does all sorts of nothing.

I do not know whether I
told you in my last that if I
can make arrangements for
the continued use of my
herbarium for my life or if my
it remained my own I intend
giving it over next summer to
Kew Museum and taking a
house at Kew giving up
Pontreize which is getting too
expensive for me

With kindest regards to
Mr. Gray believe me
Ever yours most sincerely
George Beethoven